

12-29-06

TPW



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 127.0005-00000  
Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	Conf. No.: 7246
John I. Shipp	)	
Serial No.: 10/706,715	)	Group Art Unit: 3635
Filed: November 12, 2003	)	(Examiner: not assigned)
For: IMPROVED SURGICAL LIGATION	)	
CLIP	)	

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Commissioner for Patents  
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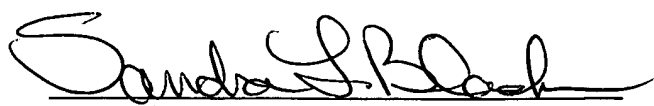
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MS AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the listed non-U.S. patent documents along with the applicable English-language abstracts are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

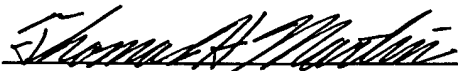
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-1068.

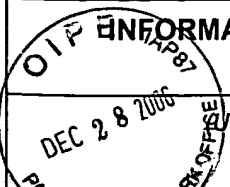
Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

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Substitute for FORM PTO-1449		Attorney Docket Number 127.0005-00000	Customer No. 22882
		Applicant John I. Shipp	Application Number 10/706,715
(Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>6</u>		Filing Date November 12, 2003	Group Art Unit 3635 Examiner (not assigned)

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
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	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	2330182	01/1975	Germany			NO
	3722311	01/1989	Germany			Abstract Only
	3802651	08/1989	Germany			Abstract Only
	4015562	11/1991	Germany			Abstract Only
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.